

GERMANS HAVE EXTENDED SUBMARINE BARRED ZONE

The Weather Report

New Haven, Jan. 9.—For Bridgeport and vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Thursday.

The Bridgeport Times

and Evening Farmer

The Liberty Bond

Do you own a bond? Do you want to know all about the bond you own? Follow the Liberty Bond articles. See Page 6.

VOL. 54—NO. 8

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., WEDNESDAY, JAN. 9, 1918

PRICE TWO CENTS

TRY TO WRECK CROWDED TRAIN
U-BOAT SINKS BRITISH HOSPITAL SHIP

NO COAL FOR USE IN HOMES

Fuel Board Will Not Again Ask U. S. to Aid In Obtaining Supply for Factories—Requests in the Past Have Been Ignored.

Government promises having failed utterly due to the inadequate railroad transportation and unnavigable waters, the Bridgeport domestic and industrial coal shortage has assumed renewed damaging stages. The city is practically without coal, the shortage in anthracite coal alone being approximately 40,000 tons, while the industrial supply needs at least 50,000 tons immediately to keep industry active.

The Bridgeport Fuel Administration has abandoned attempts to get factory coal leaving that end to the joint civil and industrial committee now waiting on officials in Washington. The committee is striving to supply the hundreds of "distress" cases, depending upon the assistance of the American Brass Co., because the supplies held by the 16 retail dealers have dwindled to less than 100 tons.

The true status of the situation was revealed by Chairman Carl P. Siemon, who in an interview with The Times today said: "The normal consumption of coal in the month of December for this city is about 30,000 or 35,000 tons. Records show only 12,000 tons were received. The normal consumption for the present month is approximately 35,000 tons and none to speak of has been received. The prospects of getting coal in any quantities this month are very poor."

Siemon previously predicted that the shortage would continue through January and February and present indications are that the prediction will be borne out. The local administrator is seeking relief from every source and in his statement today said, "Even the promises for relief have ceased."

The American Brass Co. has voluntarily agreed to furnish supplies of hard coal and its first results were shown yesterday when three carloads were given for the relief of the town of Fairfield. Company officials promise they will give as much help as possible.

The 50 carloads of soft coal, which The Times discovered had lain on sidings near Derby for six days, have been assigned to 25 towns and hamlets in Connecticut according to Chairman Siemon, who investigated the matter.

Because of the small percentage of non-essential factories in this city Chairman Siemon will not take action in regards to enforcing conservation in that direction.

TEUTONS BREAK PLEDGE MADE TO ALFONSO

All Wounded Saved Before Vessel Went to Bottom But Three of Crew Lost Their Lives—Craft Displayed Markings Required by Hague Convention.

London, Jan. 9.—The hospital ship Rewa was torpedoed and sunk in the British channel on Jan. 4 while on her way from Gibraltar, it is announced officially. All the wounded were saved. There were three casualties among the crew.

"She was displaying all the lights and markings required by the Hague convention. She was not and had not been within the so-called barred zone, as delimited in the statement issued by the German government on Jan. 19, 1917."

After making several charges of the misuse of hospital ships, which were denied specifically by the Entente governments concerned, the Germans last year suspended the immunity of these vessels in the English channel and certain other waters.

The British discontinued special markings of hospital ships on the ground that they were merely rendered conspicuous thereby and were more liable to attack. Last September King Alfonso of Spain intervened and succeeded in obtaining an agreement from the belligerents for the free movement of hospital ships within specified areas.

FRENCH TAKE 178 FOES

Paris, Jan. 9.—In a surprise attack east of St. Mihiel yesterday, French troops penetrated German defenses on a front of nearly a mile. After demolishing the positions and destroying shelters they returned to their own lines with 178 prisoners and several machine guns.

WIDEN "VERBOTEN" AREA

London, Jan. 9.—Further extension of the submarine barred zone is announced in a wireless statement sent out by the German government. It becomes operative on Jan. 11.

The extensions which are particularized in the message affect the region around "enemy supporting points" on the Cape Verde Islands and the point of support of Dakar, French Senegal, with the adjoining coastal district. The barred zone around the Azores is extended east-

RESUME WORK RAISING COAL BARGE MOHAWK; ICE JAM IS CLEARING

Bridgeport shipping men look for a complete resumption of navigation, both in the Sound and the harbor within the next few days and are watching the change of wind with keen interest, in the hope that it will break up the ice jam in the neck of the Sound, thus releasing the thousands of tons of coal and oil which are held in New York by the arctic conditions.

The inner harbor has been practically cleared of ice and is in a much better condition than the harbor at New Haven, which is reported as being frozen solid. Tugs are undergoing repairs after their battle with the ice and will be in trim to help bring in the fuel which is so badly needed by local plants.

Weather conditions were so favorable today that work of raising the sunken steam canal barge "Mohawk" was resumed and so far about 1200 bags of Portland cement have been taken out of the vessel, which lies submerged in deep water near the dock of the Wheeler & Howes Coal Co.

HOEGEN DERIDES YANKEES

Max Plays a Joke on New Haven Vigilantes by Tying German Flag on Door of Post Office and Sticking Out His Tongue.

(Special to The Times)
New Haven, Jan. 9.—Maximilian Von Hoegen, the young lawyer who boasted that he had been a spy in the service of the Kaiser at the Remington Arms plant in Bridgeport, will be sought with redoubled zeal.

Max and his bloody nose disappeared from New Haven following an unexpected visit from his neighbors. Today a large German flag was taken to police headquarters by a man who said he found it tied to the door of the post office. Printed on it in large letters was the following:

"Compliments of one German whom it took 30 U. S. hogs to whip. Deutschland uber alles. M. Von Hoegen."

The police say they have no information about the flag except that given by the man who brought it in. They are inclined to treat it as a joke. Post office officials know nothing about it.

Von Hoegen is the young lawyer who because of his pro-German utterances was thrashed by a delegation of citizens last Saturday night and was made to retract his disloyal statements. He disappeared soon afterward and is now sought as a fugitive from justice by federal agents. His disappearance became known Monday night when federal officers went to his home to arrest him.

Von Hoegen operated a German spy system in this city at both the Remington Arms and Remington-U. S. C. Co. plants. He has confessed that while employed by Von Bernstorff and von Papen he obtained information for the enemy at the Remington Arms plant through being actually employed himself. He was trailed by detectives employed by the plants for a long period and papers, containing much valuable information obtained in Bridgeport, were found in his desk.

DECLARE EXTRA DIVIDEND FOR TRUST COMPANY

An extra dividend of one per cent. in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of one and one-quarter per cent. was declared at the annual meeting of the directors and stockholders of the Bridgeport Trust Co. today.

It was the second extra dividend since last August, when the first was declared.

Following the reorganization of the board of directors the following officers were elected: President, Clinton Barnum Seelye; vice president, Egbert Marsh; treasurer, Edmund H. Judson; secretary, Horace B. Morwin, and assistant secretary, H. L. Morehouse.

FIX IRON BEAMS ON HOUSATONIC R. R. TRACKS

Guard at Sandy Hook Bridge Saves Lives of 50 Danbury Normal School Pupils and Other Passengers—Train Would Have Plunged 40 Feet Into River.

(Special to The Times)
Newtown, Jan. 9.—The lives of 50 Waterbury school girls and three score of passengers were saved last night at 7:30 by Martin Conger, a Home Guard member, stationed to watch the Sandy Hook railroad bridge, four miles below this town, when he discovered that a deliberate attempt had been made to wreck the Danbury and Waterbury train by placing and affixing immense iron bars between the rails.

The guard discovering the obstruction between the rails, and realizing that if the passenger train then due passed over the bridge it would plunge a distance of 40 feet to the waters of the Housatonic river below, rushing all aboard, rushed for the Sandy Hook station a short distance from that end of the bridge where the iron rails had been placed.

Breathless, he burst through the door of the telegraph station and frantically waved the signal man to flag the passenger train. His action was not accomplished with any too great dispatch and the train was stopped in the nick of time. Conger then summoned the sheriffs of Newtown and Sandy Hook and an investigation immediately commenced.

The bridge is one of the finest in the state of Connecticut and from a commercial standpoint one of the most important. Immense freight trains in great numbers daily pass over it, although few passenger trains cross it in the day. Its importance to the government and the railroad is so great that it is being guarded by a detachment of 100 men being assigned to watch its approaches at the beginning of the war and for the last three weeks members of the Home Guard have been assigned to its approaches, doing 24 hour duty.

Conger last night was standing at the Sandy Hook approach of the bridge and in the darkness thought he saw something on the tracks of the structure. He walked up the tracks and was startled to find the iron beam and bars securely wedged beneath the rails over which the passenger train has to pass.

Being thoroughly acquainted with the running time of the passenger train, which carries about 50 girls daily from the Normal school in Danbury to their homes in Waterbury and other way stations, he knew that he had little to spare in saving the lives of the girls and other passengers.

After flagging the train Conger assisted the authorities in their investigation. He asserts that when he assumed the post he saw no one loitering about the scene and could give no clue which would lead to the discovery of the identity of the would-be wrecker and his arrest.

CONNOR SUICIDE IS ATTRIBUTED TO ILL-HEALTH

Thomas Connor, a lodged at 117 Burroughs street, was found dead in his room at that address shortly before 1 o'clock today, with indications that he had committed suicide by gas poisoning. Connor has been ill since Christmas, had not been able to work, and despondency is believed to be the cause of his act.

When people in the house smelled the escaping gas his room was broken open, and he was found in a chair, one shoe and one stocking off, but otherwise fully dressed. The globe upon a chandelier pendant from the ceiling had been removed and the mantle of the fixture was broken, the gas escaping. Report of the case was made to Medical Examiner S. M. Garlick, and he will make an investigation.

NO MORE CANDY.

Rome, Jan. 9.—The Italian government has promulgated a decree prohibiting the making and sale of candy, pastries and confectionery under whatever shape or form.

VACATE POLICE BOOTHS

Officials of Department Decide to Abandon Beat Intersection Depots Temporarily, At Least—Proved Help to Crooks.

The booths which have been established at the intersections of police beats in Bridgeport will soon be in disuse. Officials of the police department have decided to get along without them, for a while, at least. It has come to the knowledge of these officials that indirectly, the booths are an accessory to crime. Crooks have been known to watch these booths until the policeman on the beat went within, leaving them free to perpetrate felonies.

For several months the police have maintained these booths, equipped with a phone, some sort of heating apparatus, and a chair, where the guardian of the public welfare might rest his weary bones for an hour, while his brother officer on the adjoining beat takes an hour's exercise.

Many have been the complaints against this system and the powers that be, realizing that it was time to take some action to make the department more efficient have, according to Supt. John H. Redgate, temporarily abandoned the police booths.

The booths were first installed without the knowledge of Supt. Redgate and he, for this reason, has always been opposed to them.

Records at police headquarters show that on one day the number of vacancies on city police beats reached 29, but on the same day, everyone of the police beats, which number 21, were occupied.

"The men who formerly were busy doing duty in the booths will not patrol their beats. Without orders from headquarters they will not leave their duty for any period whatever."

Another step to further the efficiency of the department is in having the desk lieutenant on duty each morning attend police court and keep the police sheets which constitute the real records department.

During the absence of the desk man a sergeant will have charge of the blotter and in this way it is hoped to keep the man on the desk informed as to the action of court in each case in which the department takes in charge.

COURT DECIDES AGREEMENT OF WESTS IS LEGAL

Decision for the plaintiff in the case of the H. J. Lewis Oyster Co. against Lucy T. West and others, a suit to compel the performance of an agreement, has been handed down by Judge Howard J. Curtis of the Superior Court. The term of the decree to be entered in the case is to be agreed on by counsel before it is signed by Judge Curtis.

This suit involved an agreement between H. J. Lewis and Pehr F. West regarding the disposition of dock property at the foot of Pembroke street, and was originally made in 1888, between the two individuals. It was in effect that if the West dock was ever to be sold Lewis was to have first option of purchase at a fixed price.

HUNS RUIN 130 TOWNS IN FRANCE

Paris, Jan. 9.—The Rome correspondent of the Matin says that by order of Field Marshal von Hindenburg, according to reliable information that has reached him, 130 villages behind the western front, mostly in the region of St. Quentin, have been leveled to the ground so as to afford better opportunity for defense of the German lines to the rear.

Notwithstanding denials, the correspondent adds, only one-third of the 300,000 Belgians deported to Germany have been permitted to return to their homes.

CLOTHING AFIRE WOMAN IS BADLY BURNED IN HOME

Mrs. Anna Dorsch of 553 Maple street is at the Bridgeport hospital suffering from severe burns received shortly after 1 o'clock today at her home when her clothing caught fire as she was lighting a gas stove. Her condition is dangerous, on account of her age, 54 years, and her previous physical condition. She was taken to the hospital in the ambulance by Dr. S. I. Aranki.

Mrs. Dorsch was preparing dinner for members of her family and was lighting the gas stove in the kitchen. There was an explosion and her clothing caught fire. Her son, who was nearby, smothered the flames with a blanket, but not before nearly all of her clothes had been burned off, and she was burned over almost her entire body. A hurried call was sent in for the ambulance.

NINE AMERICANS OF LUCKENBACH STILL MISSING

Washington, Jan. 9.—Nine men of the American steamer Harry Luckenbach, torpedoed and sunk on Jan. 6, are still missing, the navy department announced today, based on a report from Vice Admiral Sims. The report says that 22 members of the crew have been rescued.

BRITISH EXPECT MANY IRISH FOR FLYING SECTION

London, Jan. 9.—Referring to the government's decision to erect an aircraft factory in Ireland, the Times says several aerodromes are now building there. The establishment of a new and important industry, it adds, is stimulating the national imagination, and there will be no lack of Irish recruits for the flying corps.